

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A method of determining the connectivity of switches in a computer network, each switch including a plurality of ports for connection to other switches and network elements, comprising:
 - determining all the possible port pairings;
 - determining a score for each port pairing; and
 - selecting the port pairing having the highest score.
- 2 (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the score for each port is determined by determining how well the pairing conforms to a set of given properties.
3. (canceled)
4. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said steps are performed by a computer in the network.
5. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein selecting the port pairing having the highest score includes determining ~~an upper a threshold and a lower threshold,~~ and discarding scores below the lower threshold.
6. (canceled)